GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5572
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2007
PANDU-KOLKATA WATERWAY
Hussain Shri Anwar

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pandu-Kolkata Waterways has been inaugurated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total cargo movement for the last three years on Kolkata-Pandu-Bangladesh route;

(d) whether there is any proposal to construct one permanent inter model terminal at Pandu;

(e) if so, the details thereof including the actions so far taken thereon and the time by which it would be completed;

(f) whether the night navigational facilities between Dhubri and Pandu will be provided; and

(g) if so, the time by which the facility is likely to be provided?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b): River Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Sadiya was declared as National Waterway in 1988. As and when cargo is available for inland water transport, vessels of Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Kolkata or of private sector operators, operate between Pandu and Kolkata. This is a traditional inland water transport route and no formal inauguration of this route has been done in recent years. There is a Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade between India and Bangladesh.

(c): The cargo movement for the last three years on Kolkata-Pandu-Silghat and Kolkata/Haldia to Bangladesh and vice- versa are given below:

Year	Kolkata-Pandu-Silghat	Kolkata/Haldia to Bangladesh
2004-05	8,18,683 tonnes	4,16,125 tonnes
2005-06	8,04,401 tonnes	5,68,435 tonnes
2006-07	2,86,026 tonnes	7,99,347 tonnes

(d) & (e): Yes sir. A low level jetty at Pandu is already under construction through Central Public Works Department (CPWD) on deposit work basis and is scheduled to be completed by end May 2007. Construction of high level jetty at Pandu was sanctioned on 03.03.06 and the work was awarded to CPWD on deposit work basis. Tendering is in process and the work is scheduled to be completed in 21 months after award of work by CPWD.

(f) & (g): Night navigational facilities between Dhubri and Pandu have already been installed and are being maintained.